24th February 1930]

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"Should the head accountant discharge his magisterial functions as it suits his convenience, or according to the convenience of the public?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"According to his convenience when he has to do both duties."

Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai :—"Is it not a fact that the criminal cases should be attended to without making the parties wait for a long time, as it is a matter which affects the interests of the public?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"Yes, Sir, consistently with the interests of the tax-payers who have ultimately to pay for these magistrates."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"With reference to answer to clause (c) (2), may I know why two or more taluks should not be joined together and put under the jurisdiction of a magistrate?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"Notice."

Forests

Concessions to the cultivators of South Kanara to take freely green and dry leaves from reserved forests.

*1443 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(1) to place before the Council the orders or a summary of the several orders passed in connexion with the concession granted to the cultivators in South Kanara to take, free of payment of any fee, green as well as dry leaves from reserved forests, and

(2) to state (a) on what grounds and circumstances the concession was granted ; and

(b) whether representations have been received by the Chief Conservator or Government for the continuance of the privilege and, if so, what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(1) The following concessions have been granted in South Kanara :—

(a) clearing of undergrowth in all reserves (except those near the Coast) to a distance of half a mile from the limits of private holdings;

(b) in the reserves near the Coast, clearing of undergrowth to a distance of 200 yards from the limits of private holdings;

(c) clearing of undergrowth in all areas sown with Hopea, and

(d) free removal of—

(i) green manure leaves of unclassified species and dry leaves of all species, and

(ii) dead fuel.

N.B.—Undergrowth was defined to mean growth of unclassified species not above 6 feet in height and dead fuel to mean parts of dead trees less than 3 inches in diameter.

(2) (*a*) There is no definite information.

(*b*) No representations have been received by the Chief Conservator. A representation on the subject has been received by Government from Mr. Karant. The question of continuing the existing concessions is now under consideration of Government.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (2) (*a*) Government say : 'There is no definite information.' May I know whether inquiry was made before they gave this reply? And if so, what inquiry ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes, Sir, inquiries were made. The Chief Conservator was asked to make a search of the records in his office : and this is the result of his search, namely, there is no information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know whether any public inquiry was made in this connexion ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" In all probability the Chief Conservator has not made any public inquiry."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Then may I suggest to the hon. the Law Member to make a public inquiry ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not a supplementary question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (2) (*b*) may I know what are the grievances Mr. Karant has complained of and what are his suggestions for the same ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" His suggestion is that these concessions should be made in future years also. There is no other complaint put forward by Mr. Karant."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know whether Government have decided to extend these concessions ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That is exactly the matter which is under the consideration of the Government."

Loans

Grant of takavi loans in the Ceded districts.

* 1444 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether within the last ten years the Government have been pleased to advance under the powers vested in them takavi loans at concession rates to the ryots in each of the Ceded districts where they have more or less continuously suffered from scarcity of rainfall and famine ; and if so, how much and when ?

A.—The Government have not sanctioned any such loans.

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" May I know why Government have not given these concession rates to the ryots, even though there is no rule empowering them to do so ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice."